

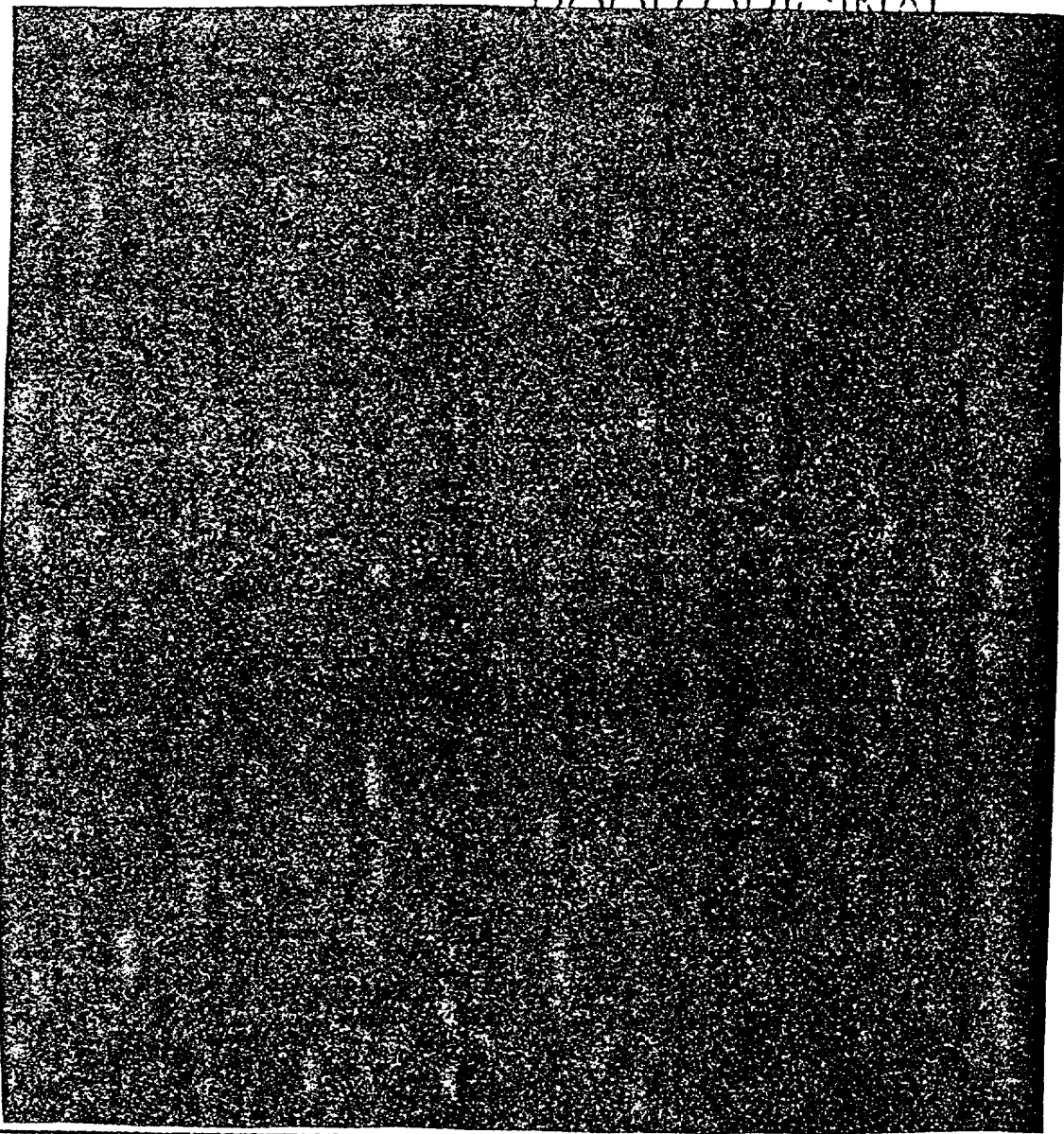


DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

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### Political Developments

#### Gorbachev Statement

President Gorbachev issued a statement today expressing concern that war in the Gulf is taking on an impetus of its own and calling for a quick end to the "conflagration," according to TASS. He stated allied military operations threaten to exceed their mandate and called Iraq's attempts to draw Israel into the conflict "extremely dangerous." Gorbachev reiterated Soviet support for UN resolutions and said he was sending a personal envoy to Baghdad to meet with Saddam.

**Comment:** Gorbachev's comments reflect growing concern among the leadership and Soviet society that the Gulf war will escalate and spread. Moscow hopes to distance itself from allied military operations while seeking a political solution to the Gulf crisis.

#### Hammadi Returns Home

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Sa'dun Hammadi has left for home after handing Iranian President Rafsanjani Saddam Husayn's response to Tehran's peace initiative, according to press reports. The contents of Saddam's letter were not disclosed. Iran's Supreme National Security Council reportedly met to discuss the reply.

#### Pakistani Prime Minister On the Road Again

Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif left today on a trip to Libya, Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia to promote his six-point peace plan, according to press accounts. The plan calls for a cease-fire, the removal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the Gulf. The Prime Minister will also meet with Kuwait's exiled leader, Amir Jabir Al Sabah. Sharif has also offered to meet with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

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